

## **Religious and Cultural Differences and Youth of India in The Novels of Chetan Bhagat**

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### **Abstract**

“Chetan Bhagat” is the writer of five bestselling novels in Indian writing in English. He is the writer of young generation and he has raised problems of youth through his novels. This paper attempts the differences of the various cultures and different religion existing in India being portrayed in his novels. The research shows the actual picture of the society where vividness and then unity has come up in a shape.

“The Three Mistakes of My Life” is one of the finest pieces of Chetan Bhagat. The novel contains all the spices like an Indian movie such as natural calamities, riots, politics, romance, dreams, business, friendship, religion, differences of culture and melodrama. Bhagat has proved it through his previous novels and selling of the previous novels. The Three Mistakes of My Life is Chetan Bhagat’s third novel in which as a contemporary writer he has tried to target the burning issue of religion amongst youngsters. The selection of the issues by Bhagat is worth appreciating in which he tried to include minor and major religious and cultural problems of the young generation through his central character Govind.

In reference of this context the cultural difference can be seen also in the story of ‘2 States’: The Story of My Marriage’ was narrated by the first person point of view in a humorous tone and the first person is none other than Chetan Bhagat who presented himself as Krish, the hero of the

*Volume I Issue I June 2013*

novel. Bhagat has tried to compare Tamil and Punjabi culture in a humorous and hilarious way. But, as a coin has two sides, in the same way, a society also has some positive and negative aspects which has been framed beautifully by the writer in terms of various aspects of cultural and religious differences.

Young people naturally have their problems. That is a feature common to all epochs but today's youth problems involve crimes, religious differences and above all the cultural problems.

In our country people with any religion are fanatics. In India, people follow a great number of religions and these religions do not agree with each other and consequently people have barriers of religions and disturbance are very frequent in our country. The partition of our country resulted in bloodshed of thousands and thousands of people following Hindu and Muslim religions.

There are a lot of people. And there's a lot of business. That's the problem, Ishaan said, but religion and politics are pretty big. And them together, even bigger, Govind added. Religion, politics and the tension, they create figure prominently in the story.

Omi's family is politically involved and militantly Hindu nationalist; among their cause is the row over the temple at Ayodhya. Meanwhile Ali's father is neither a sensible secular nor the conservative Muslim.

Here, Identity finds many favours among this militant Hindu from the begging of the religions. The problems of discrimination of caste and creed, high and low, Hindu and Muslim, Sikh and Christian etc. are existing problems globally. As youth is the future of the nation. Hence they are highly inspired by the religion. Their religious class starts at home where at the early stage parents teach their children about the God and the religion. They are the one who differentiates between the religion and God. If they pass through the road where temple is situated, children are told to bow their head and do "Pranaam" but if the child asks about the mosque or church, parents simply tell them that they are the holy places of Muslims and Christians hence we do not do pranaam and bow our head before them and due to this behaviour, children never get involved in any activity of other religious festivals and they hardly come to know the importance of the various festivals and holy places. From the childhood to the adolescent and young age, they are fixed in the

*Volume I Issue I June 2013*

memory of no respect for any other religion and offerings on the other hand, they are very much involved in all the activities and whole hearted participation in their religion and festivals.

Bhagathadencashed the same problem in the novel where Omi's mama invited Govind, Ishaan and Omi for the Hindu rally and to promote and campaigning of the party. Govind simply refused because it was against his ethics to promote any religion. But for the sake of mama he went and met HasmukhjiBhaiParikh "The Hindu Party Leader".

I wanted to tell him it was a terrible idea for him to come to mama's rally. Politics may be his past time, but for mama it was life and death. I kept quiet as we walked back to mama's rally. Hasmukh Bhai was still on, with lots of hand gestures. 'Put your hand on youth heart. Don't you feel wrong as Hindus? If we had the best culture and administration thousands of years ago. Why not now?

Many politicians and their supporters always try to get the vote for the sake of religion. From the beginning of the politics, religion is always placed as equal as politics. From the Mahabharat to the 21<sup>st</sup> century people are used for religion . Politics plays a vital role in discrimination in India. Vividness in India is always talked about but the region and religion wise division is always bad. Youth can play a very vital role in bringing religious and cultural aspect. Youth are energy of our nation and this energy when harnessed for the purpose of communal peace and Tran quality, it will bring tremendous change. Youth are presently alive to the problem of the nation.

History reveals that religious and cultural different times of our country played a very negative role and now let us trust the responsibility of maintaining communal harmony to youths of our country. Ours is a land of various religions and culture and three differences of them cave a hatred and bitterness among the followers of different religions. Youth can bring a positive change in controlling unrest caved by the religious bitterness of different religions. Youth may awaken the nation so that every person becomes a true nation of our country. Our country should identify the causes of unrest among youth and take enormous efforts to dispel this.

*Volume I Issue I June 2013*

In our country people with any religion are fanatics. In India, people follow a great number of religions and different cultures, and these religions do not agree with each other and consequently. People have barriers of religions and disturbance is very frequent in our country. The partition of our country resulted in bloodshed of thousands and thousands of people following Hindu and Muslim religion.

Youth can play a very vital role in bringing religious. Youth are energy of our nation and this energy when harnessed for the purpose of communal peace and Tran quality, it will bring tremendous change. Youths are presently alive to the problem of the nation. It is not the matter of the age but it is a matter of the people those are targeted by the non secular parties. For them youth is the target who can come forward and give their best to the party and for their benefit they can use the youth to any extend.

History reveals that religiously at different times of our country played a very negative role and now let us trust the responsibility of maintaining communal harmony to the youth of our country. India is a land of various religions and three differences of religions cave a hatred and bitterness among the followers of different religions. Youth can bring a positive change in controlling unrest caved by the religious bitterness of different cultures.

Bhagat's another novel '2 States': The Story of My Marriage" is based on two different cultures and caste where a boy and a girl who want to marry. They have to first of all proposed their family to minimize the difference of the cultures. The differences of culture is a great problem in India. If a boy wants to marry, he has to marry to the whole family of the girl. Punjab has different culture and south has different one but actually are they able and grasp the habits behavior and other aspects of the lives? Discrimination between the caste and creed, culture and religion is not appropriate for the growth of the country.

However the changing of seasons there is also a change of thoughts,ideas,cultural similarities, religious aspects and actions in the newer generation. Now it is based on more of marriages than inter caste, inter community and to some extend inter country marriages. The younger generation has become advanced and hence tends to make changes with the setup that has been going on through the ages. They no more rely on the confidence of their parents in giving

*Volume I Issue I June 2013*

them a good life partner. In fact would like to choose a person whom they think matches their mentality and thoughts. Hence the difference of caste, creed, culture and religion has been minimized a lot.

There is a change from rural to urban living. In such a society, where the youth came from various strata of the society, with diverse Cultures, religions, economic status, language and lifestyles, the youth experience difficulty in adaptation to the changing roles and value systems. These results in Alienation, withdrawal, interpersonal relationship difficulties, depression and even suicidal behaviours. The problem gets aggravated when the parents come from different Religions and cultures and expect their children to be mature and develop their own value systems and roles without appropriately guiding them. What is the core value? Systems of the Indian Culture?

Who are the role models in India in different spheres of life?

Now the scenario is changed. Youth has taken the front of this difference and try to minimize and solve these problems. Youth may awaken the nation so that every person becomes a true nation of our country. Our country should identify the causes of unrest among youth and take enormous efforts to dispel this. My research mentions that it is not considerable to people from any state in India to be superior or inferior to another state. Even scholar does not want to hurt through this research but this paper attempts the vividness about the states, their cultures and how they are different from each other but ultimately the hearts of the people always remain same.

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